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main open till 10 or 11 A. M. Likewise in the afternoon, when the heat is not too great, they begin to expand about 4 o'clock; at other times they may not open till 6 o'clock. I have taken "wilted" flowers, plucked during the heat of the day, placed their stems in a glass of water and removed the glass to a cool cellar with a northern aspect and plenty of light. In the course of an hour the flowers would slowly open. They seem to be very irregular in their habit. During the middle of the day the petals are wrinkled and loosely folded; the tube droops; the whole flower is limp and seemingly wilted, presenting a sorry appearance.—F. W. ANDERSON, *Great Falls, Montana.*

Some Nebraska plants.—In a recent visit to Clear Water, Neb., I was much impressed and somewhat surprised with the abundance and beauty of the wild flowers. Clear Water is a small town in the northern part of Antelope county, near where a creek of the same name flows into the Elkhorn river. Along the Elkhorn, and also along Clear Water creek, there is some timber, which in that region is deemed a luxury. The most abundant timber is the different species of willow, while the largest and most conspicuous tree is *Populus monilifera*. *Fraxinus viridis*, *Negundo aceroides* and *Celtis occidentalis* are frequently met with. *Juglans nigra* was not seen in this immediate vicinity, but it grows quite plentifully on Verdigris creek, in this county. Two shrubs which claimed my attention were *Amorpha fruticosa* and *Shepherdia argentea*. The latter is rarely met with. But one clump of these bushes was seen in the county. *Amorpha fruticosa* is plentiful, and when in flower is a very handsome shrub. *Symphoricarpos occidentalis* is abundant, and its flowers very pretty, although it is considered a great nuisance by cultivators of the soil. *Rhus glabra* is occasionally seen, while *R. Toxicodendron* is too abundant.

One of the first flowers to grace the prairies here in early spring is *Townsendia sericea*. It usually appears in April, before the spring grass or much other vegetation, which makes it seem prettier than it otherwise would be. *Petalostemon villosus* is so abundant that seen from a distance when in bloom it gives a rose-colored hue to the prairie. *P. violaceus* and *P. candidus* are both here, but not so plentiful as *P. villosus*. Three species of *Pentstemon* were noticed, of which *P. grandiflora* was the most conspicuous. Of the four species of *Astragalus* which were observed, *A. caryocarpus* seems to be the most common, and, for some reason, a favorite among the people. *Cypripedium candidum*, which is thought to be rare in the state, is quite commonly met with here. There is an abundance of wild roses of different hues, all of which belong to the same species, *Rosa Arkansana*. Two plants, *Taraxacum officinale* and *Cnicus arvensis*, which have in the last year or two been introduced, are likely to become great pests to the farmers.—EMMA R. MCGEE, *Clearwater, Neb.*

The clover rust.—*Uromyces trifolii* (A. & S.) Wint. has appeared on

Trifolium pratense in this vicinity in great abundance and is doing much damage. It seems to be most abundant in the aftermath, though it is not confined to the clover of meadows. In many instances the rust is so abundant that the clover leaves are half or more dry and dead. I should say the damage would vary from 5 to 20 per cent. of the value of the clover. So far as I know, the parasite has never been reported on *T. pratense* from this country before, though it is known in Europe. (*Cf.* Winter, *Die Pilze*, i, 159.) Two years ago it was abundant here on *T. hybridum*, but this year it seems to have changed to the red clover. *T. hybridum* is also a new host for America. *Uromyces medicagenis-falcata* (DC.) Wint. on *Medicago lupulina* has been abundant here every year since 1883.—LUCIEN M. UNDERWOOD, *Syracuse University, Syracuse, N. Y.*

Diceism in *Andropogon provincialis*.—The Iowa experiment station has been collecting seeds of some of the native prairie grasses for the purpose of testing their value under cultivation. The one regarded as of most promise is *Andropogon provincialis* Lam., called Blue Stem or Blue Joint. At first little or no seed was found on this species; then some plants were noticed which were smaller and darker in color than the others, and so different that they seemed to be a distinct variety. The spikes of these plants proved to be well filled with seed. After this it was seen that wherever Blue Joint was found a small proportion of the plants were of this form. The spikes of these fertile plants ripen and break up earlier than those of the sterile plants. Not all of these, however, have the heads well filled with seed. The sterile plants have conspicuous stamens with abundant pollen, and also large fully expanded stigmas. The division into staminate and pistillate plants is perhaps only partial. Circumstances did not permit a more extended examination at the time, but plants of each form have been marked for future study. It would be well also for others conveniently situated to take notice regarding this feature. If it shall prove to be a permanent habit of this grass to have but few of the individuals fertile it will be a serious difficulty in the way of its profitable cultivation.—A. A. CROZIER, *Ames, Iowa.*

EDITORIAL.

THE EDITOR of *Grevillea*, in the September issue of that journal, accuses "some of the junior mycologists of the United States" of "committing a dangerous mistake" and of indulging in "spread-eagleism" regarding the identity of certain type specimens. Dr. Curtis collected the series of fungi known as *Herb. Curtis*. The descriptions of the new species were drawn up by Rev. M. J. Berkeley, of England, and published under the joint authority of Berkeley & Curtis. Now some American has